

PENNY SCHOOL LUNCH

Milwaukee Experiment Has Proved a Success.

BENEFIT SHOWN IN STUDIES

Gambler Started the Fund for Establishing the Enterprise, Which Grew Out of Agitation Over Feeding of a Girl in a Store—No Charity About the Scheme.

In the midst of the holiday rush of two years ago a little cash girl in one of the local department stores notable for the consideration shown its employees fainted dead away, says the Milwaukee correspondent of the St. Louis Post-Dispatch. The physician summoned soon saw that the child was suffering from malnutrition, and, pushing his kindly inquiries, soon discovered that she was in the habit of coming breakfast from her poor home in the Polish quarter to her work.

This incident, made public through the newspapers, was the beginning of the penny lunch stations established in connection with the public schools by the Woman's School Alliance and supported by public contributions. A system so unique, so practical, and so effective in the reduction of nervousness and restlessness in the schools that it has become a permanent institution.

Gambler Starts the Fund.

A gambler was largely instrumental in furnishing the inspiration of the movement. John McCoy, at that time an alderman and proprietor of a saloon and gaming establishment, did not dismiss the fainting incident with a passing thought of pity. He publicly declared himself as believing that hundreds of children in the city schools went breakfastless, urged the need of an investigation, and offered to start a fund with a \$50 contribution, and to become a regular subscriber to it in such sum as might seem desirable if some woman's club or other organization would take the administration of it.

David S. Rose, then mayor of the city, duplicated the offer, and there was a considerable fund pledged before there was any definite plan for using it. Then the Woman's School Alliance became interested in the project. With a membership of influential women from all parts of the city, it has been instrumental in securing many reforms in the schools—better sanitation, better janitor service, more attractive rooms, and in some instances new school buildings.

With the aid of the principals and teachers, its members started an investigation. The number of children who went to school without breakfast was astonishing. In the foreign districts it was especially so. There are no uncommon things for parents to leave for work early in the morning, making no provision for the children's lunch or breakfast beyond, perhaps, a loaf of bread and a pot of cold black coffee. In some cases the children were locked out of doors at noon, a bunk of bread being left for them in an entry way or shed.

Success of Experimental Station.

After considering several plans, the alliance opened one penny lunch station in connection with the Fifth district school, and so successful did the experiment prove that the same plan has governed the entire system, with one exception. There are now nine of these stations, and two more are to be opened in the near future. With the exception of the one for the school for the deaf, each station is in a private home near the school which it serves.

The housewife is the matron, and each provides for the lunches for the children sent to her by the teachers. Hot, nutritious soups, made of meat stock or of milk foundation, and rolls are served one day, with perhaps cocoa or hot milk and sandwiches the next. Soup, however, is the favorite, and the children do not seem to tire of it.

In the school for the deaf the teachers and older pupils serve the lunches in the school building, the children in this school coming from all parts of the city, and it being deemed advisable that all of them have the advantage of the hot lunches, regardless of the financial condition of their parents.

To avoid the danger of pauperizing the children, tickets for the lunches are sold for a penny, although each lunch costs between 3 and 4 cents exclusive of the matron's wages. If a child receives a ticket without the payment of the penny, no one but the child, its parents, and the principal of the school knows it. There are such cases of extreme need, but the child is spared the humiliation of having the fact known by his or her playmates. The payment of the penny spares the pride of both child and parent, and it takes away the stigma of charity, which would prevent some of the worst cases benefiting by the plan, and encourages independence among the class which stands ready to accept charity but which is able to pay the nominal price asked for the lunches.

Unexpected Benefits Develop.

Unexpected benefits have developed from the system, and one of the most important of these is the influence of the matrons over the children. The Alliance has been careful in the selection of the women to have charge of the kitchen, and the matrons, without exception, have entered so heartily into the spirit of the movement that they have not limited their interest in the children to feeding them.

One of the matrons has fitted up the basement of her home as a gymnasium and roller rink, and here the boys and girls alternate in its enjoyment during the noon hour. In all instances children are allowed to remain inside by the fire in inclement weather. Each matron is paid \$4 a week, and in more than one case it has made it possible for a worthy woman of limited means to remain at home and care for her own family instead of going out to work by the day.

In making her annual report, Miss Frances Weinstein, principal of the School for the Deaf, gave the plan high endorsement, stating that it had resulted in a marked decrease in restlessness and nervousness and in an increased power of concentration and ability to study.

Twins Galore All in One Day.

From the New York Tribune.

Because its employees were frequently late a large London house recently ordered that the clerks only should write excuses in a book provided for that purpose. But the clerks proved lazy and original. At the top of a page a late one would write, "Train delayed" or "Omnibus horse died," as the case might be, and the rest fell into the habit of making ditto marks and letting it go at that. But not long ago one man had a new excuse. He wrote with pride, "Wife had twins." The second late person that morning was in a hurry and did not note the innovation, but made his customary mark and the rest of the men on that page followed suit. The excuse book was abolished.

For the Obstinate One.

From the Philadelphia Bulletin.

The second day drew to its close with the twelfth jurymen still unconvinced. "Well, gentlemen," said the court officer, entering quietly, "shall I, as per usual, order twelve dinners?" "Make it," said the foreman, "eleven dinners and a bale of hay."

FREE SHIPS A REMEDY.

Our Merchant Marine Suffering from Restrictive Legislation.

From the New Orleans Picayune.

Free ships is really the only solution of the merchant marine problem. The subsidizing of a few lines of passenger ships will not build up a respectable merchant marine, but the throwing down of the protection bars, whereby a few ship-building firms only are protected, at the expense of the rest of the country, would enable millions of dollars of American capital to seek investment in shipping wherever it can be purchased cheapest, and protect such tonnage with the American flag. There is no lack of American-owned tonnage at the present time, but all of it that is now engaged in the foreign trade, with but insignificant exceptions, is under foreign flags. Why should not the Americans who own these foreign-built ships have the right to use the American flag on their property, and control that property so that it will be more profitable, just as similar property is operated and controlled by foreigners? The whole idea of subsidies is repugnant to American institutions. The great mass of the taxpayers must not be taxed to benefit a few ship owners. If American ships cannot capture a share of the world's carrying trade without subsidies, they are not entitled to any part of it.

YAWNING IS GOOD EXERCISE

Recommended as a Cure for Certain Affections of the Throat.

Gives Relief in Catarrh and Helps Enlarged Tonsils—Everybody Advised to Yawn Daily.

A little book recently published in Vienna is devoted to a method of vocal culture, and also health culture, that has stood the test of practical experience in numerous cases, but is not as well known as it deserves to be. It is based upon the vocal method of the concert singer, Josephine Richter, the mother of the celebrated orchestra leader, Hans Richter, and consists essentially of peculiar movements of the jaws which ultimately give a pupil an astonishing command over the vocal faculty, besides strengthening the muscles of the face, neck, and chest, says the Scientific American.

Herr Lanz, the author of the book, quotes a letter from Mlle. Richter by the late Prof. Helmholtz, in which that famous physicist says: "I can readily understand, from theoretical considerations, that the flabbiness of the soft palate and the back of the mouth must act as a damper upon the voice and obstruct the precision of attack and utterance. Hence, if the command of the palate, tongue, and larynx which you possess can be acquired by your method of exercising the muscles of the face and throat, as your own example appears to prove, the result is clearly of great importance. It is physiologically probable that such exercises would have that effect."

That the exercises do have that effect is proved by an examination of an average untrained throat and the throat of a singer trained by the new method. In the former the soft palate and its conical extension, the uvula, hang limp and obstruct the vocal passage, which is further narrowed by the prominent tonsil at each side. In a mouth so encumbered, as in a room filled with furniture, it is impossible for the voice to ring loud and clear. The tonsils and soft palate, of the trained singer, on the other hand, are retracted and hardened and the pendulous uvula has entirely disappeared, giving the voice a clear and wide passage over the vocal walls, and consequently increasing its volume and improving its quality.

The method is recommended for the cultivation of the speaking as well as the singing voice, and for the prevention and alleviation of various diseases of the throat. "It gives astonishing relief in catarrh of the throat and suggests new possibilities in the treatment of enlarged tonsils."

Now, these exercises consist essentially of yawning, which has recently been recommended, independently, as a valuable exercise for the respiratory organs. According to Dr. Naegeli, of the University of Lausanne, yawning stretches all the respiratory muscles of the chest and throat into action, and is therefore the best and most natural means of strengthening them. He advises everybody to yawn as deeply as possible, with arms stretched, in order to change completely the air in the lungs and stimulate respiration. In many cases he has found the practice to relieve the difficulty in swallowing and disturbance of the sense of hearing, that accompany catarrh of the throat. The patient is induced to yawn through suggestion, imitation, or a preliminary exercise in deep breathing. Each treatment consists of from six to eight yawns, each followed by the operation of swallowing.

It should be added, however, that it is quite possible for deep breathing to be overcome, particularly by persons with weak hearts, and, as a result, to open to question whether the obstacles to free respiration which the yawning cure is alleged to remove are not useful in preventing the entrance of germs and other foreign bodies.

"Twinkle, Twinkle" in Boston.

From the Philadelphia Telegraph.

"Miss Emersonia Osgoodson will now give a recitation," announced the teacher to the friends who had assembled in the school room to enjoy the regular Friday afternoon exercises. Miss Emersonia stood forth and recited as follows:

"Conspicuous, concubine, diminutive steel-lap-ir!"

For the first time she seems the stupendous problem of this existence! Elevated to such an immeasurable distance, apparently in a perpetual upward direction from the terraqueous planet we occupy!

Resembling in its dazzling and unapproachable effulgence a crystallized carbon gem of unsurpassing brilliancy and imperishable glittering in the ethereal vault, whose boundless immensity we endeavor to bring within the compass of the human intellectual grasp by the yawns of the concrete term firmament."

THE WHITE LIGHTS.

(Broadway, 1906.)

When in from Delos came the gold
That from the desert of Pericles,
When first Athenian cars were told
Of the great deeds of the great ones,
When men met Aristophanes,
Who faded them with immortal quills—
There were the three who were of these,
There were the three who were of these,
There were the three who were of these.

When Rome went waving to see
The sons of southern end their days,
When Plautus had Lucanoe
To banish her children ways,
When the world was reeling, almighty power
Of Mars into the world of these,
Here there was neither blame nor praise
For Rome or for the Mantuan.

When Rome, like a fairy form,
Lay freighted, for the eyes of Rome,
With golden laurels before
By moonlight wharves in Avon—
Here, where the white lights have begun
To glow for what is something far,
No more than that was done,
That was triumph in the air.

—Edwin Arlington Robinson, in Scribner's.

BUILDER OF CANAL

William J. Oliver, Whose Bid Was the Lowest.

NOTED FOR CONTRACT WORK

Was First to Suggest Digging Panama Canal by Contract, and His Scheme Attracted Attention of President Roosevelt—Is Only Thirty-nine Years of Age.

William J. Oliver, who, with Anson M. Bangs, of New York City, submitted the lowest bid for the construction of the Panama Canal by contract, is the foremost railroad contractor in the entire South, and has contracts now in force and under way which, it is said, aggregate more than \$2,000,000. In addition to his extensive railroad construction interests, Mr. Oliver is also practically sole owner of the William J. Oliver Manufacturing Company's plant in Knoxville, which is the largest car and locomotive works and mine tool and railroad construction tool manufacturing in the South. He is at the head of the Oliver company, which builds re-enforced concrete structures exclusively, and which is the only concern of the kind in this section of the country, writes the Knoxville correspondent of the Boston Transcript.

In addition to the private contracting business conducted by W. J. Oliver as "railroad contractor," Mr. Oliver is associated with ten to fifteen other firms, all of which are in the railroad contracting business, and which have large contracts said to have been sublet to them by W. J. Oliver. Associated with him in these enterprises are his brothers, R. B. and Ralph Oliver, Charles J. McKinney, A. M. Monday, Benjamin Russell, M. J. Schatz, J. A. Elkin and others, all of whom are well known in the railroad construction circles in the South.

The firms with which Mr. Oliver is associated have contracts on the Southern Railway, Cincinnati Southern Railway, Tidewater Railway, all amounting to between 400 and 500 miles. He has just completed the practical rebuilding of the Louisville and Nashville line between this city and Atlanta, and is understood to be negotiating with that road for other extensive works.

His Engineering Feats.

For the Southern Railway Mr. Oliver is building the extension from Chattanooga to Stevenson, Ala., which includes a tunnel through Lookout Mountain and a long steel bridge over the Tennessee River. In the construction of this tunnel a vast cave was struck, and it will have the distinction of being the only tunnel in the world which has within it a steel bridge crossing a great cavern at the bottom of which is sixty-five feet of running water, presumably from the Tennessee River.

In his concrete enterprises, Mr. Oliver built a \$50,000 concrete viaduct in Knoxville, and is now building a similar structure in the city of Atlanta, over railroad tracks. He erected the six-story Van Denter office building in Knoxville, which was the first re-enforced steel concrete building in the South. He is also building a large concrete bridge over the Georgia River, in each of which cities his firm, the Oliver Company, now has large forces of men at work. Mr. Oliver is an expert and successful worker of concrete.

Mr. Oliver is but thirty-nine years of age, a remarkable young man for having mastered such gigantic enterprises, and for being the active head of corporations and firms that control such an enormous amount of construction equipment. He claims to have assets of \$3,000,000 or more, and he has established a line of credit and financial backing which make him abundantly able to carry out the great Panama Canal proposition. Mr. Oliver is one of the stockholders and leading directors of the Mechanics' National Bank in this city. He is also interested in other large business enterprises. He is likewise an extensive owner of real estate in Knoxville and at other points in the South.

Lowly Hoosier by Birth.

Mr. Oliver first came South twenty years ago from his birthplace, South Bend, Ind. He is related to the family made famous by the Oliver chilled pork. He began life in a humble way, and was attracted to railroad construction work. He was employed variously as subordinate, foreman, clerk, and bookkeeper, until finally he determined that he would no longer work for others, but would launch a contracting proposition upon his own account. Backed by his vigorous determination, his extraordinary executive ability, and his experience in railroad work, he secured a contract and "made good." His first work was to build a road on the Illinois Central road. Later he obtained work for other roads, and finally secured large contracts on the Southern Railway.

It was said of Oliver that when the Southern and the Atlantic Coast Line were having a vigorous "fight for life" in South Carolina a few years ago, the stake being the speedy construction of a line into Savannah, Ga., Mr. Oliver rendered the Southern the substantial service of proving his fitness and ability to do work, and established himself thoroughly with the Southern Railway. It is a notable fact, one commented upon in railroad circles, that Oliver always delivers his work free of any legal incumbrances, and that railroad managers prefer to give him work because they know that when it is turned over it will be without strings tied to it, in that it will be free of any financial obligation. Mr. Oliver is noted for his high integrity and his strict business acumen. These traits, coupled with his extraordinary ability and corps of assistants he has associated with him, account in large measure for his splendid success.

Until four years ago Mr. Oliver resided at Langley, S. C. Since moving to Knoxville his business interests have expanded considerably, and he has brought the city into prominence quite as much as the South and the firms bearing his name.

To W. J. Oliver belongs the credit of having been the first man to suggest that the Panama Canal be built by contract. Mr. Oliver has been deeply interested in the canal project since its inception, and it was demonstrated that the government was unable to carry it out in pushing the work, Mr. Oliver volunteered the suggestion that the contract plan be adopted, and that, instead of importing Jamaicans, Chinese, or other foreign labor, the Southern negro be used on the works. Mr. Oliver's interviews in Knoxville, Atlanta, and Washington papers came to the attention of the President, with the result that Mr. Oliver was invited to Washington to be conferred with the President and Chairman Shonts of the Canal Commission.

Getting at the Facts.

That he might be thoroughly advised as to every detail of the situation on the isthmus Mr. Oliver sent one of his expert engineers and R. F. Ezzell, to Panama, to make a report as to the engineering

feats to be accomplished in order to construct the canal. Mr. Ezzell is now principal assistant chief engineer of the eastern district of the Southern Railway.

The report of Mr. Ezzell was supplemented by still another very exhaustive review of the situation from the financial, sanitary, and labor, as well as the engineering standpoint. This second report was required by Mr. Ezzell, who is one of Mr. Oliver's advisers and heads of departments, and who is also an official of the William J. Oliver Manufacturing Company. Mr. Guntter went direct to Panama, and made up report upon what he saw and learned, as did Mr. Ezzell.

The facts gleaned by these experts were laid before the President in an attractive form, and it is said that the decision to let the work by contract was induced by these reports furnished by Mr. Oliver, demonstrating the practicability of the plan, quite as much as by any other influence. The President was additionally impressed with Mr. Oliver's determination, his zeal, and his devotion to the tasks within his grasp. In fact, W. J. Oliver is a running mate for Theodore Roosevelt in the "strenuous-life" race.

After the report was prepared by the government engineers and was submitted to contractors with the request that bids be submitted, it will be remembered that these specifications were revised in several particulars, and the date of opening of biddings was deferred to enable contractors to amend their bids accordingly. Mr. Oliver is responsible for several of these changes in specifications. It is said, and as a result of his suggestions in that respect, it is estimated that the government will be saved from \$2,000,000 to \$3,000,000 on the cost of the work.

Mr. Oliver proposes to build the canal for the cost of construction, plus 5.75 per cent for his profit. It is estimated that this will yield him over \$9,000,000.

BLACK SHEEP OF FAMILY.

Merely Literary, While Brother Attained to Baseball Eminence.

From the Stafford (Kan.) Courier.

"Let's see," said the man who had been away a long time, "you had two boys, didn't you?"

"Yes," replied Pat. "They would have been three at all, but one was born a girl."

"I remember now. Tom and Andy you named them, after Thomas Jefferson and Andrew Jackson, didn't you?"

"Yes."

"As I remember Tom he was a very bright little fellow. I never knew so much about Andy."

"Ah, but that Andy! He's the boy. He led the big league in batting and now he's managin' a club in Missouri and has a contract for five years at a terrible big salary. Me and his ma can't get over being glad we never made Andy go to school, but let him play ball on all the corner lots of the neighborhood. And all the neighbors have his pitcher in their parlors. They are proud of him. He gets more salary than a member of the Cabinet at Washington."

"No, Tom ain't amountin' to much. He's the big league in batting and now he's managin' a club in Missouri and has a contract for five years at a terrible big salary. Me and his ma can't get over being glad we never made Andy go to school, but let him play ball on all the corner lots of the neighborhood. And all the neighbors have his pitcher in their parlors. They are proud of him. He gets more salary than a member of the Cabinet at Washington."

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MATCH STORY WITH MORAL

Why Children Should Not Meddle with Dangerous Things.

Don't Like to See Them Rabbed.

From the Chicago (Ill.) Herald.

The following fable for children is condensed by Ohio's fire marshal from one for which the British fire prevention committee recently awarded a prize to Mr. Bengough, a Canadian:

On the shelf of a dark cupboard there once lived a large family of matches. They were very happy together in the same box. They had made friends with a little mouse, a rat, and a great black beetle. These three came to the cupboard every day to secure food, and sometimes they all gathered together to tell each other stories or to chat. Their talk was almost always about children.

One day when they were congregated together the biggest match in the box spoke out his mind.

"I hate children," he declared. "I should like to burn every one of them!"

"Oh!" exclaimed the mouse, the rat, and the beetle. "Oh, what a bad thing to say!"

And they all trod upon one another's toes as they shrank to the back of the shelves, trying to get as far as possible from that wicked match.

"But," exclaimed master rat, "why do you hate children? Children are very nice when they are good."

"That's just it!" exclaimed the big match; "when are they good? Are they good when they make playthings of us? Are they good when they rub our heads against the wall just to make us blaze up and rage? No, no; it is because children are bad and disobedient that we hate them. If they interfered with you as they do with us, you would hate them, too. Master rat, have children ever rubbed your head against the wall?"

"I should just like to see them," replied the rat, indignantly. "They run away screaming when I'm about. Not that there is any reason for them to be much afraid! I should never touch them if they let me alone."

"If they let me alone! Don't you see that is the point? If they let us alone, we might like them, too!"

"You are merciless creatures," said Master Rat. "I should advise children to keep away from you. I wonder, though, that they are not frightened by your loud crackling voices and your horrible smell."

"Yes, we are merciless," retorted the Big Match.

"Wretches!" cried Mr. Beetle. "I must tell the poor children how you are scheming to hurt and kill them. They think you pretty harmless toys."

All this time Master Rat had stood by speechless with indignation. At last he found a voice. "I will tell them, too," he panted out.

"And I," squeaked Miss Mouse.

But the matches only laughed again. How can you tell them? They jeered. "Do you know the language of children?"

"No, but when I see children playing with matches, I shall buzz until they drop them in surprise. They will know that means 'Beware of matches.'"

ADVICE TO THE POPPER.

Do not pop on your knees
When the question you pop, sir;
If you do, you will pop, sir.
On your knees you will pop, sir.

Do you love me?—not then;
For an answer may fall her;
She may ask months to solve
All the doubts that assail her.

"Will you marry me?"—that's
Going straight to the issue;
She replies, "Yes or no,"—
And so does you or I.

—Boston Transcript.

MAKING A REGULAR

How the Awkward Squad Is Licked Into Shape.

ALL RECRUITS ARE NOT ALIKE

Foreigners Averse to Enlisting in the Army—Poorest Recruits Come from the Pacific Coast—Odd Sense of Security in the Soldier's Life. Importance of the Noncom.

Recruiting officers look over a curious assortment of humanity. On the Pacific coast, according to Army and Navy Life, the new material is not of such good quality as that which comes to the stations east of the Rockies.

Broken down fortune hunters who have worn themselves out in a vain quest for gold, sailors who have come around the Horn from the Eastern States and Europe and have deserted their ship after getting their passage, sporting men who are down on their luck, are among those who line up for the examining surgeon's inspection.

From the Middle West comes a cleaner, healthier lot, young men who have become tired of turning the furrow and standing behind the counter.

Down South many white recruits are from the pine lands which are lumbermen they helped strip of their trees. Fishermen from the Carolina sound country have also enlisted in large numbers. The few colored recruits get most of their additions from the section beyond the Potomac down to Dixieland.

When business is dull the muster rolls are swelled with names of clerks, bookkeepers, and young men of the middle class in large cities, but the tramp soldiers put in an appearance at the recruiting office. Thirteen a month and board does not tempt them.

The Hungarians, Poles, Bohemians, or Italian recruits are a rarity; not because they are rejected, but because they are averse to military service. So it is that in the mining and lumbering districts, of which such places as Harrisburg and Pittsburg are the centers, men are picked up chiefly from town and city with an occasional farmer. The masses of so-called foreigners working in the coal regions have no desire to serve the country in this way.

Out of the World.

But no matter who he is or what he has been, the fellow who has measured up physically and mentally in the recruiting office and signed the enlistment papers drops out of the world. Not until he has doffed the blue or khaki for good does his preparation of service do him return to it, save on furlough.

At first it seems curious to the man who has had to scramble for a living in the everyday world to become a part of this life—to know that he will not have to worry about how long his job will last or where he will get his next meal.

After a little he acquires an odd sense of security. In some way—just how he doesn't know, and doesn't care—he is being looked after. After the month is up, no clothes to get. When the month is up, his pay seems like the schoolboy's spending money, and he hardly knows what to do with it—at first.

But the men in the big white building at Washington don't keep him long with out something to do. When he is "told in" with another batch of "rookies" to make up the awkward squads he soon knows what he is there for. The day of the first drill arrives, and out on the parade ground shuffle Jim Brown and Bill Smith with the rest, occasionally keeping in step, balancing guns on shoulders as if they were lead feet.

"Halt! Left face!"

Private Brown finally manages to face the drill sergeant, after first turning his back on him.

Drilling a "Rookie."

"Number Three, where do you think you're going? Ploughin' or steerin' a canal boat? You're a husky sort of a soldier, you are. Here, put that left hand down where it belongs. Straighten them legs. Hit yer heels together. A right leg, a left leg! Corporal, pull it in a couple of holes. Too tight? Keep that place steady—so!"

"Now then, four right! Huh! Here, Three, git in step. I'll be flowed if ye don't come out here again with them gloves unbuttoned. You Four there, what's the matter with yer shoes? Didn't ye ever see any blackin'? Number Two, that gun looks like you'd left it out all night in the rain. Put a rag and a good lot of elbow grease on it before ye fall in again with it or I'll report ye."

The half hour becomes the hour before "At Ease" gives them a chance to mop their foreheads, but even now the keen eye of an officer is on them.

"Don't come out here again with them gloves unbuttoned. You Four there, what's the matter with yer shoes? Didn't ye ever see any blackin'? Number Two, that gun looks like you'd left it out all night in the rain. Put a rag and a good lot of elbow grease on it before ye fall in again with it or I'll report ye."

Even a week or so of this rough-and-ready training makes an astonishing change. The new recruits are no longer learners what it means to obey—perhaps for the first time in his experience.

The soft soap he thought it this sort of life, but he's in for it, and after having the jest of the old-timers at his freshness he stops grumbling and gets a down to hard work—not because he wants to, but because it is the easiest way to escape criticism and ridicule.

Regarding the last from the awkward squad, he becomes a member of the platoon, the human war machine for which he has been fitted—the troop, the company, or the battery—but he is constantly being scrutinized, even as the model watchman the shames of the hapless lump of clay into the familiar object. He is still in the molding process, and whether on post, on dress parade, or as the captain's orderly there is some one to pick him up to pick him up to pick him up.

Importance of Noncoms.

Here a word should be put in for the sergeant. Yes, it's the promoted Mulvaney who do the rough and hard work in soldier-making. They are the medium between rank and file, and do what position will not permit the captain or the lieutenant to do.

These the executives. While in touch with the men in the ranks, though the sergeant is their comrade, his chevrons command their obedience.

The youngster fresh from the Point soon learns to appreciate the importance of the noncoms as his senior officers did before him. In the formation of the "new army"—the army as it has existed since 1888—the services of veterans who first shouldered rifle and carbine under the old regime, the best of the old-timers, a fact to which President Roosevelt himself has testified.

The government is a thorough believer in the axiom that cleanliness is next to godliness. The new man is given to understand that Uncle Sam will pay for the creases in his trousers and the blacking for his boots. All he has to do is to apply the polishing brush and keep his uniform in the order in which he receives it.

Every commissioned officer in the service sets an example in this respect, for the men composing the personnel of this branch of the army can be called models of neatness and dress. Consequently, the private has to look before him an example to emulate as the weeks and months go on, and he must be duly indeed if he does not unconsciously pattern after it.

No matter how slovenly he may have been in the outside world, he even gets into the habit of trimming his nails, and the coat must fit without a wrinkle or he makes a fuss to the post tailor about it.

THEORY VERSUS HUMANITY.

An Issue Involved in Federal Regulation of Child Labor.

From the Portland Oregonian.

It is only fair to concede that some persons who are opposed to the Federal regulation of child labor are animated by genuine constitutional scruples. There are people in the world who prefer the integrity of a theory to any other good. They would sacrifice the happiness of the entire human race rather than violate the sanctity of their beloved abstractions. Such people exist, and they are among the most determined foes of Mr. Beveridge's bill; but the great majority of those who oppose the regulation of child labor are animated simply and solely by greed.

By employing young children at work which ruins their bodies and debauches their morals these men can make more profit than they could if they employed adult labor; hence, they employ children and oppose all legislation which would hinder them. For their own offspring they provide nutritious food, capable teachers, hygienic surroundings, and games in the open air; but for all these things they pay, in part at least, by herding into their mills day after day a miserable drove of gaunt, hollow-eyed, starving boys and girls, and working them to the last limit of exhaustion.

ARMY SPY IN THE CHIMNEY

Hanging to a Rope, He Overheard Important Military Secrets.

How Gen. Buckner Secured Information of Federal Movements—A Negro Orderly Badly Scared.

"The most noted and daring of the military telegraph operators with whom I was acquainted during the civil war was George E. Ellsworth," said W. F. Russell last week to a Kansas City Star man. "He was staff operator and scout for Gen. John Morgan. Ellsworth was a dare-devil, and although he was reckless to a fault, he engaged in many perilous adventures and emerged therefrom without any serious disaster to himself."

"When Gen. Buckner was once encamped some fifty miles from Chattanooga, Tenn., he was very